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# SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE  
OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1908

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## THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE ANTHROPOLOGY AT THE CHICAGO MEETING

THE joint meeting of Section H of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Anthropological Association and the American Folk-Lore Society was held at the University of Chicago, Chicago, December 30, 1907, to January 2, 1908.

### MEETING OF THE SECTIONAL COMMITTEE

Professor Boas, vice-president of Section H, presided over the sectional committee meeting, other members present being Miss Alice C. Fletcher and Dr. George Grant MacCurdy, acting secretary. Officers for the Chicago meeting were nominated as follows:

*Member of the General Committee*—Professor Frederick Starr.

*Member of the Council*—Miss Fletcher.

Sectional offices were filled by the nomination of Professor R. S. Woodworth, Columbia University, New York, as vice-president for the ensuing year and of Professor Roland B. Dixon as member of the sectional committee to serve five years. These nominations were later approved by the association in general committee.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Professor Boas as president of the association likewise presided over the deliberations of the council. Members of the council present in addition to the president

were: Miss Fletcher, Charles Peabody, G. A. Dorsey, E. L. Hewett, R. B. Dixon, B. T. B. Hyde and G. G. MacCurdy.

The secretary, Dr. George Grant MacCurdy, reported that there had been no special meeting of the association since the beginning of the year; but a meeting of the council was held at Yale University Museum, October 11, in the interest of the program for the Chicago meeting. Those present were, Professor Boas, chairman, Professor Saville, Dr. Peabody and Dr. MacCurdy, secretary. There was also a meeting of the committee on program in New York on November 18.

The responsibility for the Chicago joint meeting having been left in Dr. MacCurdy's hands by the secretaries of Section H and of the American Folk-Lore Society, a call for the meeting was mailed in October to the more than 700 members of the three societies.

In response to this call thirty-nine titles were received. A preliminary program was prepared and mailed to members December 14. In addition all abstracts that reached the secretary in time to be submitted for approval were printed (fifteen in number) and were distributed on the opening day of the meeting.

Among the social functions arranged for the benefit of the anthropologists was a reception on the evening of January 1 by Dr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Dorsey at their home, 5609 Monroe Avenue.

#### ADDRESSES AND PAPERS

Professor Boas's address as president of the American Anthropological Association was on "Anthropology as a Subject of University and College Instruction." It will not be published at present.

The address of the retiring vice-president, Dr. A. L. Kroeber, which was read by title in the absence of the author, was printed in *SCIENCE* of February 21.

The president of the American Folk-Lore Society, Professor Roland B. Dixon, chose for his subject "Some Aspects of the American Shaman." The Shaman was considered in the making, in regard to functions and activities as healer, sorcerer, seer, priest and educator, in relation to the degree of organization, and as regards his position in and influence on the community. The geographical distribution of several features connected with the Shaman was briefly considered, and some of the characteristics of American shamans, as opposed to those of other regions, were pointed out.

Brief abstracts of the papers read are given in so far as material at the disposal of the secretary will permit.

Professor Roland B. Dixon read a paper on "The Chimariko Language." A few of the more characteristic features of the language were considered and compared with the types found in neighboring languages. The question of loan words from surrounding stocks is briefly discussed, as were also one or two phonetic traits.

Dr. Alfred M. Tozzer presented two papers. The first of these was "On the Teaching of Anthropology to Large Classes." He discussed the character of a general course in anthropology, taking "Anthropology 1" at Harvard as an example. Requirements for entrance; composition of the class; difficulties peculiar to a large class, and how these difficulties are met; aids in conducting the course, and results were all touched upon. In "A Note upon Star-Lore among the Navajos," Dr. Tozzer emphasized the keen powers of observation of the Navajos as seen in the case of a gourd rattle which is used in connection with the "night chant" ceremony. Holes made in the rattle have been identified as representing stars which are seen in the month of the year in which the

ceremony takes place and in the particular part of the sky towards which the special rites of the day are directed. The stars thus seen are supposed to represent certain gods of the tribe.

In "A Number-Form from Folk-Medicine," Professor Charles Bundy Wilson presented a peculiar combination of numbers occurring in a remedy for rheumatism, which was discovered by the writer when gathering material for a paper on folk-medicine. The application of the remedy calls for three series of doses of three doses each. When the numbers of units in these doses are arranged in regular form, the sums of the vertical, horizontal and diagonal columns present interesting results, particularly with reference to 13 and 3.

Professor Francis W. Kelsey's paper on "Some Archeological Forgeries from Michigan" was accompanied by photographs and specimens illustrating the forgeries of 1891-92, 1898 and 1907, respectively. The three series include objects of clay, copper and slate, decorated for the most with bogus hieroglyphics. The jumble of ancient Oriental writing was explained as due to the composite character of a colony, Egyptians and Phœnicians as well as Assyrians, which in a remote period found its way from the drainage area of the Euphrates and Tigris across seas, up the St. Lawrence and the Lakes to Michigan. The distributing center of these forgeries<sup>1</sup> during the past year has been Detroit.

The success that has attended these efforts at imposition—so far as they have been successful—is, Professor Kelsey thinks, almost wholly due to the religious element in several of the designs. These are at the same time self-interpreting and mystifying; and their presence has seemed

<sup>1</sup> It seems a pity that there is at present no legal means of punishing the forgers.

to turn the attention of many away from consideration of the material and of the crass incongruities in design and technique.

There is no danger that by frauds such as these purchasers for museums will be imposed upon; but it is the duty of the expert to protect so far as possible the amateur collector, not only for his own sake but because he creates the market for archeological remains which without such a stimulus would be neglected or destroyed as of no value and so lost to science.

In "The Prehistoric Habitations of the Sioux" Professor N. H. Winchell called attention to the evidence which indicates that in prehistoric times the well-known form of earthen house of the Mandans was common in Minnesota. This evidence consists of traditions amongst the Ojibwa, the existence of many flat-topped, or concave-topped, low mounds, the persistence of such terms as "Ground House River," coming through the Ojibwa, who expelled the Sioux, found in Kanabec County, the stock alliance of the Sioux with the Mandans and the Hidatsa, as well as with the Omaha, all of whom are known, even in historic time, to have occupied such habitations, and finally some slight historic allusions to houses of this kind.

"Recent Aspects of the Eolithic Discussion" were reviewed by Dr. Charles Peabody, who called attention to Rutot's Tertiary eoliths and to his eolithic series persisting through all ages to and including recent Tasmanian cultures; also to a proposed change in the connotation of "eolithic," "paleolithic," etc. It is proposed to determine whether an eolithic industry may not exist in America.

Dr. Peabody also presented a "Report for the Committee on American Archeological Nomenclature" of which he is chairman. This report has been published and is already in the hands of members of the American Anthropological Association.

It covers only certain divisions of objects in clay and objects in stone, and is accompanied by sixty-six illustrations. The classifications offered and the definitions proposed are based so far as possible on form alone, due weight being given to systems of classification already made standard by writers of distinction. In all cases measurements are considered as referring to an upward direction.

The variations in the body, rim, neck, foot and handle of a clay vessel are noted. Articles in stone are classified as *chipped* and *ground*; and these two groups are subdivided, with an enumeration of all the types in each subdivision.

The "Report for the Committee on the Preservation of American Antiquities" was prepared and read by Mr. E. L. Hewett, secretary of the committee. Attention was called to the national monuments that have been created during the past year, including Chaco Canyon, Montezuma Castle and others.

Owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the rules and regulations prescribed by the secretaries of the interior, agriculture and war to carry out the provisions of the act for the preservation of American antiquities not much has been done in the way of field work. The Joint Committee on the Preservation of American Antiquities prepared a revision of these rules which was approved by the secretaries of war and of the interior, but the approval of the secretary of agriculture has not yet been secured. This failure to agree on a revision has resulted in the abrogation of the rules, an order from the war department by direction of the president taking their place.

Professor Franz Boas, chairman, reported for the Committee on the Concordance of American Mythology. "Advance Report on the Nomenclature of Indian Linguistic Families" by Mr. F. W.

Hodge, chairman of the committee, was printed for distribution and in the absence of the author was read by title.

The paper by Professor W. H. H. Rivers, of Cambridge, England, on "The Genealogical Method in Anthropology" was illustrated by lantern slides. Dr. George A. Dorsey's paper on "Field Work of the Department of Anthropology, Field Museum of Natural History," was supplemented by inspection of the museum collections under the guidance of Drs. Dorsey, Lewis and others. Professor Albert Ernest Jenks presented "Race Statistics of the University of Minnesota" and the Rev. Stephen D. Peet discussed "Migrations as shown by Archeology."

Papers were read by title as follows:

DR. WALTER HOUGH: "Blow Guns of the Abbott Malaysian Collection in the U. S. National Museum."

MR. R. LOWRIE: "Catchwords for Mythological Motives."

PROFESSOR M. H. SAVILLE: (a) "The Archeology of Esmeraldas"; (b) "Further Investigation of the Archeology of Manabi."

PROFESSOR HENRY MONTGOMERY: "Recent Archeological Explorations in Western Canada."

MISS ADELA BRETON: "The Ancient Mexican Sites near Juchipila, Teuchitlan, Zapotlan, Perote and Yoalliche."

MR. FREDERICK MONSEN: "A Description of Certain Ruins in an Unnamed Canyon in South-eastern Utah."

DR. BERTHOLD LAUFER: (a) "The Ancient Culture Types of Asia"; (b) "The Cocoanut Palm as a Historical Problem."

MR. WILLIAM C. MILLS: (a) "Explorations of the Seip Mound"; (b) "Explorations of Jackson County Rock-shelters."

MRS. M. BURTON WILLIAMSON: "The Haliotis, or Abalone Industry of the California Coast: Preservative Laws."

MR. H. J. SPINDEN: "The Mythology of the Nez Percé Indians."

DR. GEO. B. GORDON: (a) "Ethnology of the Koskokwin Valley"; (b) "Linguistic Variation among the Alaskan Eskimo."

DR. A. H. THOMPSON: "Anthropology Past and Present."

MR. V. STEFANSSON: (a) "Physical Characters

of the Eskimos of the Coast West of Cape Bathurst"; (b) "Social Organization and Daily Life of the Mackenzie River Eskimos"; (c) "The Treatment of Disease among Mackenzie River Eskimos."

DR. MAXIMILIAN HERZOG: "The Brain Weight of the Filipino."

PROFESSOR OTIS T. MASON: "Mind and Matter in Culture."

DR. SARAH NEWCOMB MERRICK: "A Unique Method for Preserving the Inscriptions in Our Historic Burial Grounds"; (b) "Present-day Beliefs in some Medical Superstitions."

GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY

YALE UNIVERSITY,  
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

#### THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE Geological Society of America held its twentieth annual meeting, December 30 and 31, 1907, at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N. M. The attendance was small, of course, as compared with that at the New York meeting, but it was satisfactory and there was time for considerable discussion. About thirty fellows of the society were present, besides other geologists, students and visitors to the number of nearly as many more. Seven members came from the Cordilleran Section, which extends from the Rocky Mountain region to the Pacific coast; five members and three visitors came from eastern Canada, and the remainder were from the eastern half of the United States, five of them being from the Atlantic coast. The local arrangements for the meeting, which were made by President W. G. Tight, of the university, were admirable, and the welcome extended by President Tight and his associates and the citizens of Albuquerque was most cordial and substantial. Furthermore, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Railway Company made considerable reductions in the rates for tickets, which were appreciated. The meeting was held under the following officers:

*President*—President C. R. Van Hise, Madison, Wis.

*First Vice-president*—Mr. J. S. Diller, Washington, D. C.

*Second Vice-president*—Professor A. P. Coleman, Toronto, Canada.

#### SESSION OF MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1907

President Van Hise presided, calling the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M. The secretary, Dr. E. O. Hovey, of the American Museum of Natural History, reported that the printed list of fellows contained 294 names. During the year the fourteen new fellows elected at the New York meeting qualified; two fellows, Professors Safford and Heilprin, were lost by death, and one was lost by resignation. After the reading of the memorials of the deceased fellows the regular program of papers was taken up as follows:

*The Occurrence of Proustite and Argentite at the California Mine near Montezuma, Colo.*: FRANK R. VAN HORN, Cleveland, Ohio.

Massive proustite and argentite occur with argentiferous galena and sphalerite in a gangue of siderite and quartz in a fissure vein in gneissoid rocks at the California Mine on Glacier Mountain, about three miles from Montezuma, Summit County, Colorado. The vein generally shows a banded structure, but in places, is more or less brecciated on account of faulting of the region. The chief ore is argentiferous galena, with considerable sphalerite irregularly mixed with it. In some parts of the vein proustite and argentite occur at the center in seams which sometimes have a thickness of two inches. In places the argentite has been reduced to silver.

The paper was discussed by C. R. Van Hise, George D. Louderback and H. E. Gregory.